



Tapu'itea

...ina ia manino le folauga.

Tuesday
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2007

OFFICIAL AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Vol. II, No. 8

GOVERNOR TOGIOLA AND SECRETARY OF STATE KEMPTHORNE SIGN \$188,000 GRANT AWARD FOR WORKFORCE STUDY



(UTULEI) – Governor Togiola Tulafono joined Secretary Dirk Kempthorne in a signing ceremony, during Secretary Kempthorne's visit to the Territory, to formally accept a Department of Interior grant award of \$188,000 to fund a workforce study designed to help American Samoa attract private sector investment.

As part of the working lunch at Convention Center in Utulei, Governor Togiola Tulafono expressed his concerns about the long-term viability of the tuna canneries that employ one-third of American Samoa's workforce.

"The recently passed federal minimum wage legislation would force the canneries to relocate to countries that pay their workers a fraction of what workers earn in American Samoa," said Governor Togiola. "On the brink of a severe economic downturn, Mr. Secretary, I am happy to receive this grant award that will fund a study to help us and private investors determine whether there is a sufficient number of qualified employees on the island to support a call center industry or other industries."

Governor Togiola said, in addition, the study will identify the potential availability of workers from the independent state of Samoa and, if necessary, neighboring islands.

Secretary Kempthorne said he has heard the concerns of Governor Togiola and local leaders that the recently passed federal minimum wage legislation would force the canneries to relocate to countries that pay their workers a fraction of what workers earn in American Samoa.

"I listened to American Samoa's local leaders and understand that an exodus of the canneries would be devastating," said Secretary Kempthorne. "In the long run, the Department of the Interior will work to help American Samoa diversify its economy into areas that can support higher wage jobs. The grant I signed here in American Samoa is part of that effort."

"American Samoa has lost more of its fine young men and women per capita in Iraq and Afghanistan than any state or any other territory," said Secretary Kempthorne. "This territory has earned the right to have its legitimate concerns duly considered in Washington, D.C."

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Harry Stevens (harry.stevens@americansamoa.gov) or Vince Iuli (vince.iuli@americansamoa.gov)

Pacific Women's 10th Triennial Conference

Building a women's movement was one of the many topics discussed during the Pacific Women's 10th Triennial Conference, which was held from May 27-31 at the Jacques Iekawe Conference Centre, SPC Headquarters in Noumea, New Caledonia. Representing American Samoa, per selection by Governor Togiola Tulafono, were Pago Pago lawmaker Fiasili Haleck, NGO representative Ipu Lefiti, and Director of Youth and Women's Affairs Leuga Turner. "I would like to acknowledge and express appreciation to the Governor on his selection of the delegation that attended the conference," Turner said.

During the Conference, Turner was a volunteer member of the conference drafting committee, preparing and working on the language of the document for the discussion and endorsement of the outcome of the 10th Triennial Conference of Pacific Women by the ministers and heads of delegations from various islands on Friday, June 1, 2007. The Conference, which was hosted by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), was well attended by ministers, officials from Pacific Islands and Territories (PICTS) holding responsibilities for women's ministries and departments, and development partners including representatives of regional organizations, research institutions, and civil society.

The event was chaired by the Head of Delegation, Government of Samoa, Ms. Luagalau Foisagaasina Eteuati-Shon, whom Turner congratulates for her "strong leadership role and ability in chairing the conference." Discussions, presentations, and work groups centered on various topics, including a discussion on the critical importance of a constant, strong, and vibrant women's movement in ensuring gender equality in our region.

The Pacific Women's Bureau/Human Development Program report card featured the work of the Pacific Women Bureau since 2004, and provided an update on SPC's new Human Development Program (HDP). Different countries also gave presentations on their gender mainstreaming initiatives, in order to provide practical advice and opportunity to share and reflect on each country's experiences to date.

In addition to discussions, workshops were conducted to discuss the following topics: women, peace and security; advancing UN Security Council Resolution 1325, building a women's movement; young women leaders; CEDAW reporting on the optional protocol and legislative indicators, mainstreaming gender into forestry; agriculture and fisheries; advancing women in decision-making; women, media and information; communication and technology (ICT); women and disability; violence against women and crimes against women; overcoming cultural barriers to gender equality and the advancement of women; gender and land research; and tools for conducting research for advocacy.

According to Turner, the third Pacific Ministers Meeting on Women discussed and endorsed outcomes of the 10th Triennial Conference of Pacific Women on the following recommendations:

- Mainstreaming gender into national policy development, implementation and reporting.
- Implementing gender statistics and indicators for measuring progress.
- Advancing the process of gender budgeting in the Pacific. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).
- Getting a Pacific expert on the UN CEDAW Committee.
- Building the women's movement in the Pacific Island region.
- Researching for advocacy.
- Influencing regional and international frameworks.
- Implementing outcomes and recommendations from the workshop sessions and development partner discussions

"This conference was very helpful in our efforts in strengthening our network and partnership with NGOs and maintaining our relationship with the Pacific Women's Bureau/Human Development Program," Turner said. She added, "The ongoing need for statistics, research, and knowledge information, and sharing of resources among the Pacific Islands, should be available."

Gov. Togiola dedicates new PPG Int'l Airport administration building

(UTULEI) – Governor Togiola Tulafono today dedicated the new administration building at Pago Pago International Airport in Tafuna.

Governor Togiola expressed his gratitude for the new addition at the airport in saying the new structure is a sign of American Samoa on the move in preparation for major improvement of the Territory's main airport facilities.

"We are on our way in making this commitment for the future of our airport, and the construction of this building is the first step by relocating the administrative offices and then we will work on the departure terminal," said Governor Togiola. "It has been designed and it is where the Immigration offices, Transportation Security Administration and airport security will be located thereby making us in compliance with regulations restricting the boarding area to ticketed passengers only. Once you get clearance from Immigration, you are not allowed out of the boarding area."

Federal Aviation Administration funded the \$1.69 million project. Fletcher Construction was the contractor and Joe Weilemann was the architect.

Those that attended the dedication ceremony included Senate President Lolo Letalu Moliga, House Speaker Savali Talavou Ale, Port Administration Director Tuitele Fofo Tuitele, legislators and members of the cabinet and Mr. Dean Hudson of Fletcher Construction.

\$164,000 for Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Station Maintenance

A total of \$164,000 has been approved by the Office of Insular Affairs, US Department of Interior, for the maintenance of the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) station at the Tafuna Airport.

According to Port Administration Director, Tuitele Tony Fofo, the notification was made through an email received from OMIP program manager Cheryl Jodoin on Thursday, June 21, in response to correspondences between herself and local Fire and Rescue Consultant Ross Riddell following a meeting with the FAA in Palau earlier this year.

Jodoin wrote: "For the first year of the program, I'll approve it for the full amount of \$164,000." She added that there is never a guarantee that funding will be available for the second to fifth year, because their budget is approved each fiscal year and can either be increased or cut. Jodoin suggested that it may be better for the government to come up with some matching funds for the second year if funds are available. "The award will be addressed to the Governor for his signature," she concluded.

The ARFF, under the Department of Port Administration, is located at the Tafuna International Airport.

Department of Public Works Relocating to M&O Compound in Tafuna

The Department of Public Works will be relocating its operations to its Maintenance and Operations (M&O) compound in Tafuna later this year, and work is already underway to prepare the Tafuna facilities for the big move-in.

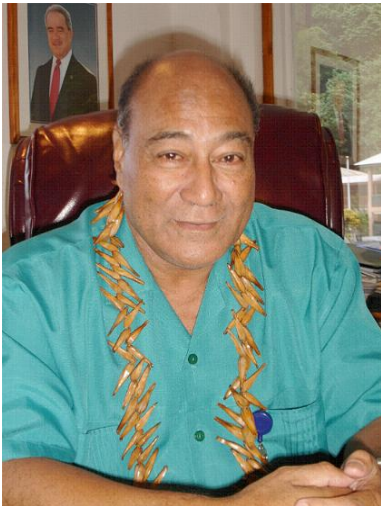
DPW director Taeaotui Punafo Tilei says that the project is currently 50% complete, as they are installing new walls and fixing up the floor. A new fence to enclose the compound is also being installed. The work is possible with money from local funds.

Currently, DPW employs 256 employees in different divisions that include Architectural and Engineering, Civil Highway, Lands and Survey, Administration and Finance, Personnel and Accounting, Director's Office, Maintenance and Operations, Road Maintenance, Motor Pool, Building Branch, and the Manu'a Branch.

Those working in Ta'u, Manu'a will have a new office of their own by the end of the summer. As of last month, the project was already 90% complete. Facilities will feature a new fully air-conditioned office and garage, to accommodate the 14 full time employees working there.

In addition, DPW employees stationed in Ofu, Manu'a are enjoying a newly installed garage, made possible with funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Taeaotui said that plans to move DPW operations to Tafuna have been in the works for a while, and the move is necessary to free up some office space at the Executive Office Building in Utulei. DPW currently occupies several office spaces on the second floor of the EOB.



Tuitele Tony Fofu Resigns as Director of Port Administration

In his letter, Tuitele thanked Togiola "for the great opportunity given me." Tuitele wrote, "It was indeed a pleasure working under your good leadership," and "my tenure as director under your guidance was filled with content and satisfaction as your management style allowed me flexibility in managing seaports and airports."

Tuitele explained that his decision to move over to the Legislature was made with the full support of his family, and choosing a successor for Faiivae left him with no option other than himself, as the Olo and Leoso titles are currently vacant.

"I have felt that it is my duty and obligation to serve my village/county of Fofu, and that I should represent their best interest in the Senate," Tuitele wrote. He added that his decision to appoint himself was because "the current lower rank chiefs would not be suitable for the senatorial seat of the County of Fofu."

Tuitele expressed his appreciation to the Governor for allowing him to head the Department of Port Administration for the past three years.

"These years have been challenging for me as most of our ongoing and future projects are now on schedule to be implemented within the next few years," Tuitele wrote.

As a senator, Tuitele said, "I will be committed to ensure that all our seaport and airport projects become a reality. I will do my best to support all economic development projects and to serve our people's best interest."

Tuitele's presence in the Senate will place him in the same rank as his father, an original member of the Senate (then known as Maota o Ali'i), and the first and only Senate President to hail from Fofu County. He concluded, "Again, thank you Governor for the great opportunity given me. May the good Lord guide you always as you are called upon to make important decisions every day that affect a lot of people in our Territory."

New Port Administration Office Building Dedicated

The Department of Port Administration completed yet another one of their many ongoing projects on Monday, June 25 when the new administration building at the Tafuna International Airport was dedicated. Port Director Tuitele Fofu is happy with the job, which came with a price tag of over \$1 million, made available through funding from the Federal Aviation Administration

The project was completed on June 13, five days ahead of the June 18 deadline. Tuitele said that the new building will house the offices of airport manager Peter Lefiti, as well as other airport employees. It is unsure when the airport employees will move in to occupy their new office building but currently, they are utilizing the small spaces next to the Immigration section near the baggage claim area.

Tuitele said that after the airport employees are completely moved out, the area they used to occupy will be renovated and used as office spaces for employees of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Immigration, and the Customs Division of the Department of Treasury.



The new airport administration building built by Fletcher Construction and dedicated on Monday, June 25 at the Tafuna International Airport. The new building will house the offices of the airport manager and airport employees.

Governor's Fourth of July Message

"On this July 4th holiday, American Samoa joins in celebration of America's 231 years of independence. We call to mind the spirit of 1776 and the birth of the United States that was based on the premise that as a people, when they are free, with inalienable rights, can pursue dreams and happiness and create a society that is filled with promise of continuous freedom in a land of bountiful opportunity.

God has blessed American Samoa with this affiliation with the U.S. And we are thankful by showing our patriotic duty in being of service to America through the military commitment of our sons and daughters in active duty and in protecting the freedom of the world in the conflicts of war.

As we celebrate the Fourth of July, and we celebrate and enjoy the freedom that comes with the commemoration that makes this day very special, let us keep in our prayers of thanksgiving the dedication and commitment of our military family across the globe through service to our country and all in the name of freedom.

We place our trust in God for their safety. May He protect them. And may God bless those who lost their lives while safeguarding our freedom that we continue to enjoy and may God comfort their families who join us in celebration of freedom and America's 231st birthday.

May God bless America. May God bless American Samoa."



Gov. Togiola welcomes Association of Pacific Island Legislatures meeting

(UTULEI) –Governor Togiola Tulafono today attended the opening of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL) General Assembly at the Fono Guest Fale in Fagatogo.

Governor Togiola welcomed APIL President - Senator Sabino Sauchomal of Yap, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), and all the legislative representatives from the 12 island governments of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, FSM [Chuuk,

Kosrae, Pohnpei & Yap], the Marshall Islands, Palau, Nauru, Kiribati, Hawaii and American Samoa. He said it was a great honor for American Samoa and the Fono leadership and members to host this year's general assembly because APIL is a very important body that come together and collaborate through mutual assistance on topics of vital importance to the Pacific.

"In 1981, when APIL was formed, I was a senator, and I recall there were skeptics when a resolution was introduced to create this legislative regional organization," said Governor Togiola. "And now over two decades later, the mission of APIL is as important today as it was when it was formed 26 years ago. Your organization is growing even stronger as you continue to come together to discuss common concerns and share solutions and work together to protect our region and serve all of our people. And as legislators, you are representatives of the people and by serving the people you are also serving God."

Governor Togiola reiterated the words of the wise in listening to the voice of the people and to be guided by the spirit of God in their duties as lawmakers. He also encouraged the legislative organization to promote good governance and adhere to the principles of accountability, transparency and integrity.

The opening ceremony included the presentation of 11 computers to the Department of Education by APIL Hawai'i delegate - Mr. Glenn Wakai, president of Reach Out Pacific, for use by the schools of the Territory.

Joining Governor Togiola at the opening were Chief Justice Michael Kruse, Senate President Lolo Moliga and House Speaker Savali Talavou Ale, who along with Senator Tuana'itau Tuia, at the time served as Speaker, are the only Fono members still serving since inception of APIL.

Massacre Bay monument conservation project begins

The American Samoa Historical Preservation Office, under the Office of the Governor, is in the middle of a two-phase project to conserve and rehabilitate the Massacre Bay Monument in Aasu.

Approximately \$20,520 will be provided by the Government of France to assist with the project. The monument memorializes 12 Frenchmen who were killed during an altercation with natives on December 11, 1787.

The entire rehabilitation project has been broken down into two phases, at a cost of \$86,172 which includes payment for 40 man days on site, materials, shipping, laboratory work, transportation and per diem for the experts from Connecticut.

The French government is donating about 25% of the total cost, and the U.S. Historic Preservation Fund, which is administered by the National Park Service's Pacific West Regional Office, and the American Samoa Historic Preservation Office, will provide the balance.

The monument was entered upon the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 and therefore, regulations are in place to preserve and maintain it.

Last year, ASHPO contracted Monument Conservation Collaborative LLC of Colebrook from Connecticut to conduct a two-phase rehabilitation of the monument.

ASHPO's John Enright explained that Phase I consisted of carefully hand cleaning the monument to halt deterioration, removing biological soiling, and making a detailed inspection to determine what and where repairs are needed. *(Continued on page 6)*

Massacre Bay monument conservation *(continued from page 5)*

The monument was inspected to establish the chronology of construction and any historic changes or modifications in order to ensure that any proposed repairs are historically appropriate to the monument.

Phase II will involve the cleaning, assessment, and analyzing of materials conducted during Phase I. The Phase II treatment, conducted by master masons from Connecticut, are intended to slow down deterioration of the monument and to re-establish a coherent appearance to it, essentially as it was with the addition of a concrete wall and cross in 1948.

All work on the monument will be performed in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, 1995, and all treatments completed will be documented for future research as per the Secretary's Standards to be included in a final technical completion report.

The Aasu monument is difficult to get to because nobody lives there. Visitors generally get there via a boat trip from Fagasa. Herdrich recommends that anyone planning to walk the rough trail should contact the pulenu'u and the landowners.

HISTORY

The Aasu massacre occurred on Dec. 11, 1787 when a French landing party under the command of M. de Langle and a group of Samoans gathered on the Aasu shore. The landing party's sole purpose was to fill their casks with fresh water.

A dozen members of the French party, including de Langle, and an unknown number of Samoans are killed in the brief exchange of musket fire and stones.

By October 2, 1882 French missionary Rev. Julien Vidal, after years of inquiry, identified the grave site in Aasu and erected a simple monument with a cross. Two years later, a grander monument, probably closely resembling the one that still stands, was constructed when the French cruiser, *Kerguelen*, commanded by Agenour Fourier delivered the brass marker.

Between 1933 and 1981, additional modifications and repairs to the monument were made on an incremental basis and then in 2003, an evaluation of the monument's condition was conducted for the American Samoa Historic Preservation Office by Prof. Frederic B. Pearl of Texas A & M University,

Treasury Department's May Financial Overview

The Treasury Department's May Financial Overview report for local funds reveals that expenditures exceeded revenues by more than \$300,000 but the same report also shows that certain ASG departments and agencies have increased their collections compared to the same time last year.

As a matter of fact, the total collections for May 2007 was \$5,336,513, an increase of \$187,084 from the \$5,149,429 that was collected in May 2006.

Some examples of downfalls in cash collections for May include the Customs Division, which only collected \$1,870,022 this year compared to May 2006 when they collected \$2,166,237

Others include the Customs Bond collection which fell from \$217,972 last year to \$143,969 this year, and Port Administration which only collected \$95,337 this year compared to \$103,684 last year.

Big drops came from the Agriculture Department which dropped from collecting \$16,216 last May to only \$5,262 in May 2007; the Immigration Bond which decreased its collections to \$71,417 compared to \$83,386 last year; and the Office of Motor Vehicles which collected \$87,270 last year but fell to only \$70,765 this year.

The biggest decrease in collections came from the Judicial Branch which collected \$80,220 last year but only raked in \$25,714 this year. The Department of Parks and Recreation cut their collections by more than half, from \$1,575 last year to \$650 this year.

(Continued on page 8)

HISTORICAL NOTES

By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor

On June 1, 1919, the value of American Samoa's Samoan Hospital Fund was reported as \$13,976.33.

On June 1, 1948, Western Samoa's new flag was raised ceremonially for the first time, and was flown together with the New Zealand flag in Apia.

On June 1, 1955, "a new Attorney General was appointed by the Governor [of American Samoa] to fill the position left vacant upon the resignation of the previous incumbent who has returned to private practice....the appointment of the new Attorney General, who is a Samoan-born qualified lawyer and a member of the District of Columbia Bar, marked the first time that a major department in the Government of American Samoa was headed by a Samoan." [N.B. *Strangely, the report makes no mention of the new Attorney General's name: Peter Tali Coleman*].

On June 1, 1962, Western Samoa celebrated its independence (which was achieved on January 1, 1962) on this date, because of better weather. This practice continues today.

On June 1, 1986, two teams of archaeologists arrived in American Samoa to conduct archaeological surveys for the American Samoa Historic Preservation Office. One team, consisting of Dr. Patrick Vinton Kirch and Mr. Terry Lynn Hunt of the University of Washington, conducted a survey of the Manu'a Islands. The other team, comprised of Dr. Jeffrey Todd Clark of North Dakota State University and Mr. David Jerome Herdrich of the University of Illinois, investigated archaeological remains on the northeast coast of Tutuila.

On June 2, 1927, the Honorable William Nosworthy, New Zealand's Minister of External Affairs, arrived in Apia to assess the causes of rising tensions between Western Samoa's Administrator, Sir George Richardson, and the *Mau*.

On June 3, 1872, George Musalas "Colvos" Colvocoresses, who served in the United States Exploring Expedition, better known as the Wilkes Expedition, which explored and surveyed the Samoan islands in October, 1839, and later authored a work on the Wilkes Expedition, entitled *Four Years in a Government Exploring Expedition* (New York: J.M. Fairchild, 1855) was mysteriously murdered in Bridgeport, Connecticut while on his way to New York. (7. Wikipedia: "George Colvocoresses": 07/13/2006)

On June 3, 1905, Tupua Tamasese Peter Mea'ole, future Joint Head of State of Western Samoa, was born in Vaimoso, Western Samoa.

On June 3, 1917, the German steamer *Elsass*, after being towed to Pearl Harbor by USS *Ajax*, was turned over to U.S. Naval authorities in Hawaii. (Please refer to the entries for August 6 and 12, 1914 and April 7, 1917).

On June 4, 1896, President Grover Cleveland appointed William Churchill III as U.S. Consul in Apia.

On June 4, 1900, Commander B.F. Tilley, Commandant, U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, issued his "Regulation No. 9-1900: Divorce."

On June 4, 1924, Western Samoa's Prime Minister, Tofilau Eti Alesana was born Aualamalefalelima Alesana in Vaitogi, Tutuila, American Samoa, to Reverend James Alesana Fai'ivae of Leone, Tutuila and Vaoita Iosefa Mala'itai of Safune and Iva, Savai'i.

On June 4, 1942, the Japanese 17th Army was formed. Its mission: to capture New Caledonia, Fiji and Samoa in July. Two battalions of the 41st Infantry Regiment, then fighting on Panay in the Philippines, were assigned to capture Tutuila.

Development Bank Launches Fitness Program

President of the Development Bank of American Samoa Utu Abe Malae believes that many of his employees are not getting much exercise at home. So in response, Utu launched the DBAS wellness program two months ago and the result has been nothing but rave reviews from excited employees who say that the highlight of their stressful days behind the desk are their after-work exercise sessions.

"I really enjoy the wellness program because it has helped me become strong in body and mind," said DBAS collection officer Judy Taufete'e.

Not all 40 DBAS employees participate in the program and it is not a requirement. Both the bank and its employees fund the wellness program, with the bank paying 50% of the gym fees.

Utu and the employees generally conduct their exercises after work on Mondays and Wednesdays, sometimes on Friday. There is a small group of DBAS personnel who walk up to Aolouau on Saturdays, but most of the participants prefer the group walks to the Vaipito Reservoir in Pago Pago or the easy stroll to the Marine Railway and back.

"If the gym could be made more exciting, I think it would get more participation," Utu said. "How many happy people do you see working out in a gym anyway?"

So where did the inspiration for launching the wellness program come from? Utu explained that in his previous job, he read studies that said a good wellness program could realize big gains not only for the individual workers, but also for the company as a whole. The benefits to the company are reduced absenteeism and more alert employees.

"These results are backed up by various studies," Utu said. "If you, Mr. Dad, have to ask your kids to untie your shoes, you're in trouble. Or if you're steering your car with your abdomen, that could cause a crash. A wellness program will get you flexible enough to untie your own shoes, plus wash the car, mow the grass, scrape coconut, and sit cross legged for long stretches," Utu continued.

Two months after it was first introduced, Utu said that in his opinion, the wellness program has definitely helped with office performance.

"But that is only anecdotal. I haven't conducted a scientific study yet," Utu said, adding that self-confidence in some employees has also kicked in, referring to a female staffer who said she had to downsize her clothes. (Continued on page 8)

May Financial Overview *(continued from page 6)*

Other decreases were noted in the Immigration Office, the Office of Vital Statistics, Legal Affairs, and the Sports Complex.

In the same token, cash collections soared in other ASG departments and agencies.

DEPT	2007	2006
Revenue	\$183,283	\$111,505
Tax Office	\$1,233,023	\$1,148,420
Procurement	\$18,305	\$4,430
DPS	\$661	\$627
Public Health	\$4,665	\$1,620
Attorney General	\$35,170	\$21,590
Admin. Services	\$4,559	\$1,844
Tax Reserve	\$499,744	\$431,863
Grants Fund	\$340,387	\$78,627
Workmen's Comp.	\$123,122	\$88,055
Road Maintenance	\$60,147	\$54,357
LBJ Loan	\$91,667	\$0
Port	\$193,209	\$180,804
Airport	\$87,748	\$87,099
PFC	\$11,497	\$0

DBAS Fitness Program *(continued from page 7)*

"She says...she feels much better. I notice she's applying makeup also," Utu reported.

Prior to his current stint at DBAS, Utu also held executive positions at the LBJ Tropical Medical Center and the American Samoa Power Authority. He said LBJ was the hardest place to implement a wellness program because "too many of the doctors smoked."

But there was a "fantastic" wellness program at the utility company. "At one time, there were 74 of us at the Utulei Beach swimming laps and getting our pictures taken by KVZK-TV," Utu recalled. "We stopped the swimming though because the bacteria counts in the water were getting too high," he explained. "Since so many of our workers are not getting much exercise at home, something should be done at work."

Utu said that it is tough for us today, because over the millennia, "our ancestors in the islands were accustomed to feast or famine and hard physical exertion. Today, it is feast and more feast, and we ride around in cars a lot."

Utu continued by saying that while it is tough, "we have to use our brains more to override the genetic imperative to harm ourselves, because what was beneficial before to our survival, now will kill us most surely."

He concluded, "I am reminded of the wellness cartoon in our office: Doctor asks patient: 'What fits your busy schedule better? Exercising one hour a day or being dead 24 hours a day?'"

...more *HISTORICAL NOTES*

By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor

On June 4, 1943, Captain Edwin Edwin Taylor Pollock, American Samoa's 14th naval governor (March 1, 1922-September 4, 1923) died of cardiac arrhythmia and auricular fibrillation in Washington, D.C.

On June 4, 1945, the Commandant of the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, Captain Ralph Waldo Hungerford, requested the immediate removal of the sono-buoys from Pago Pago Harbor from the Commander, Service Squadron South Pacific Force.

On June 5, 1900, the American flag was raised on Ta'u, in the Manu'a Islands. Commander Benjamin Franklin Tilley, Commandant of the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, attended the ceremony, reporting that "the natives were quite enthusiastic about hoisting the flag, and treated me with much courtesy."

On June 5, 1915, American Samoa's Governor, Commander John Martin Poyer, ended the prohibition on the sale of liquor.

On July 1, 1921, American Samoa's Governor, Captain Waldo Evans, informed the Navy Department that the *Manu* was no longer a problem in the Territory. This was due to the "constructive and sympathetic measures" that Evans's administration implemented to redress the *Manu*'s grievances, in contrast to the New Zealand administration's repressive measures in Western Samoa.

On July 1, 1929, Governor Stephen V. Graham's "Fiscal Regulations of the Government of American Samoa" became law.

On July 1, 1933, Edwin William Gurr---newspaper editor, lawyer, judge, *Manu* leader, first Secretary of Native Affairs in American Samoa and author of American Samoa's *Deeds of Cession*--(for both Tutuila-Aunu'u and Manu'a)--died in Pago Pago.

On July 1, 1942, Captain John Gould Moyer, Commandant of the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, recommended to Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox that the tour of duty for all personnel on Tutuila be reduced from 18 to 12 months, because "the climate is bad for most Caucasians," and "because of the danger of filariasis."

On July 10, 1900, Commander Benjamin Franklin Tilley, Commandant of the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, Tui Manu'a Elisara and U.S. Navy Doctor Edward M. Blackwell raised the U.S. flag on Rose Atoll, and claimed it for the United States.

On July 10, 1941, the organization of the First Samoan Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, began. All recruits were enlisted as privates, and were paid 70 cents a day, with a uniform allowance of \$5.00. After four months, their pay was raised to \$1.00 a day. "Special instructions from Headquarters, Marine Corps, listed these defects as not cause for disqualification for enlistment in the First Samoan Battalion: flat feet, intestinal parasites, yaws (not tertiary), defective vision (one eye must be 20/20 and the other not below 15/20), opacities (when not interfering with vision), overweight (except in marked obesity cases), filariasis (not including elephantiasis) and incipient pyorrhea."